IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: Y. WADA et al

Serial No. 09/485,115 Filed: February 4, 2000

Group Art:

3641

Examiner:

H. Behrend

For:

METHOD OF OPERATING NUCLEAR REACTOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above application as follows.